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Canadian Reserve Cyclist Coy.
Chisledon Camp
Wilts Eng. July 4/17

Pres. R.A. Falconer
Univ. of Toronto, Canada

Dear Sir,-

As a graduate of the University of Toronto, I thought it might be possible to obtain from you a recommendation for a commission in the Imperial Army. So many grad's. and undergrad's. have made successful officers in the C.E.F. and B.E.F., and, when I explain my situation here, to you, you will probably agree with me that I might be more usefully employed.

I graduated in Civil Engineering in 1915, and was class president of the graduating year in Applied Science; and after a year in western Canada with the Dom^n Irrigation office at Calgary, I enlisted in the Canadian Cyclists, and came overseas in May 1916 in that unit, as a sergeant, — which rank I have held since that date. In November 1916 I made application for a commission in the C.E.F. through the O.C. of this unit, to which application Prof. A.T. Laing was so kind as to attach a certificate of educational qualifications. Just about that time an order came from Headquarters, Canadians, London, to the effect that no more commissions were to be granted in the C.E.F. unless the applicant had done service in France, and a letter was returned from headquarters in reply

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referring to the order. So that idea was dropped.

Owing to conditions in France, cavalry and cyclists have been little needed up to the present and, consequently, only small drafts of men have been sent out from here, without N.C.O.'s. I have tried to revert, in order to go, each time a draft has been sent, and there have been just two small drafts go to France from this unit in fourteen months, and on three occasions have asked for a transfer to another unit, but the O.C. has refused to sanction a reversion or a transfer of any N.C.O. whom he can use for instructional purposes. I have been instructing in Bombing, and Musketry, at different times since our arrival here, and consequently have been unable to revert or transfer. The O.C., however, is willing to recommend and forward any applications for commissions that he deems worthy, and he has signified his willingness in my case. Knowing that men from the University have been accepted willingly by the War Office here in London, for commissions, I am desirous of having an application forwarded for me — preferably to the Siege Artillery, believing that the Engineering and mathematical training which I received at the University will be useful in that branch of the service.

I am writing again to Professor Laing asking him to kindly forward to you any credentials that he can, concerning my connection with the University, and I trust you may deem me worthy of your recommendation.

I can assure you, sir, that in event of

being accepted as a candidate for a commission I will do everything in my power toward upholding the honor of my Alma Mater as well as the cause for which we all have enlisted.

Thanking you in anticipation of your kindness,

I believe me to be, sir

Your obedient servant

Walter R. McCaffrey

#541031 Sergt.

Can. Res. Cyclists Co'y

Chisledon Camp

Wilts, Eng.

July 21st, 1917

#541081, Sergt. M. P. McCaffrey,

Can. Res. Cyclists Company,

Chisledon Camp, Wilts. England.

Dear Sergeant McCaffrey:

I am enclosing for you a certificate regarding your standing in this University, which I hope may be of use to you in obtaining your commission.

We shall be glad to have any change of address from time to time.

Yours very truly,

President's Secretary.